



**SAVE AMERICA'S HERITAGE**

NEBRASKA HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY

FINAL REPORT AND PRELIMINARY INVENTORY

OF

HARLAN AND FRANKLIN COUNTIES

RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY

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FOR NEBRASKA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 15, 1985

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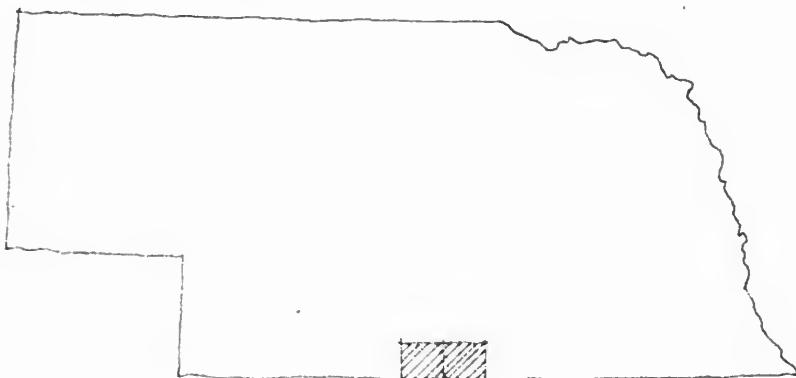
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The public mention of a "historic building survey" often fails to produce a collective image or understanding. A strong social awareness towards preserving our built environment does exist in the rehabilitation of aged urban districts, but the notion of recording historical structures as a preservation activity remains a publically obscure concept. Fortunately, this obscurity is due to a lack of awareness rather than a lack of genuine concern. Communicating the importance of this activity as a documentation of our Great Plains history cannot be stressed enough.

The Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office (NeSHPO) has established an ongoing Historic Building Survey (NeHBS) which deals with the priorities of recording our built heritage. Save America's Heritage has engaged in a contract with the NeSHPO to conduct the reconnaissance survey of Harlan and Franklin counties in south-central Nebraska. It is SAVE's belief that people, and the places in which they live, are the raw materials of history. A city, its inhabitants and its development through time, are proper subjects for our contemplation, for it is through such studies that we arrive at a fuller and more sympathetic comprehension of the present.

The intent of the survey was to document resources which contribute to the evolving context of Nebraska's historic architecture. The NeHBS survey should be used not only as an information resource in the field of preservation but also to express a genuine concern for the history of the Great Plains built environment.

:THE STUDY AREA:



Harlan and Franklin counties are located in south-central Nebraska along the heart of the Republican River Valley. The river valley played an important role in the development and settling of the area. Most towns are situated along or near waterways and the fertility of the valley has helped the farm industry put much of the area into cropland. Corp of Engineers projects such as Harlan County Dam and bridge constructions have helped eliminate the possibilities of major flood damage and linked the southern-third of the county with the northern two-thirds.

Throughout the duration of the survey, SAVE's staff were impressed by the geological intrigue and aesthetics of the river and its valley. Lying above the valley is the flat land of the plains, made up of sandstone or stream deposited silt overlain by loess. Proceeding away from the valley you encounter the rolling hills of the dissected plains, a land with sharp ridge crests and remnants of the old plains eroded by water and wind. While cropland dominates the low lying plains and valley, the dissected plains support mostly grazing of livestock and wheat production.

It is the extensive development of the cattle industry which contributes to the lack of rural resources within the study area. The rural survey yielded only 51 and 70 sites in Harlan and Franklin counties respectively. This, in part, has negatively impacted the total number of documented sites which was estimated prior to the survey at 550 per county (1,100) yet only reached 848. Adding to the impact of the cattle industry is the historic tendency for flooding in the valley which appears to have eliminated many of the earliest resources. Harlan county has suffered further damage with the 1951 construction of the Harlan County Dam which inundates 13,250 acres and caused the entire town of Republican City to be relocated. The impact of this damage is seen in the documentation of 385 (70%) out of an estimated 550 sites (100%). Franklin county fared somewhat better with 463 (84%) out of an estimated 555%.

Despite this disappointment, there were several positive aspects of the survey which should be mentioned. First is the broad range of building typologies which were documented. The resources recorded represent a good cross-section of the various functions associated to historic communities. Secondly, the rural survey exceeded estimated coverage by a minimum 75 square miles. The rural coverage figures are, 250 square miles (43.4%) in Harlan county and 265 (45.8%) for Franklin county. Finally, there remains built evidence of the ethnic communities who were responsible for the settlement of the area. The two largest groups were the Swedes of Harlan county and Germans of Franklin county. On the following page is a listing of documented results of the Harlan and Franklin county reconnaissance survey.

<u>HARLAN COUNTY</u>	<u>*TTL.</u>	<u>*C.S.</u>	<u>FRANKLIN COUNTY</u>	<u>*TTL.</u>	<u>*C.S.</u>
Rural	HN00 - 51	44	Rural	FR00 - 70	48
Alma	HN01 - 102	13	Bloomington	FR01 - 30	1
Huntley	HN02 - 12	0	Campbell	FR02 - 49	1
Mascot	HN03 - 5	0	Franklin	FR03 - 98	3
Orleans	HN04 - 75	4	Hildreth	FR04 - 33	5
Oxford	HN05 - 2	1	Macon	FR05 - 10	1
Ragan	HN06 - 17	5	Naponee	FR06 - 33	4
Republican City	HN07 - 7	0	Riverton	FR07 - 31	2
Stamford	HN08 - <u>35</u>	<u>12</u>	Upland	FR08 - <u>39</u>	<u>5</u>
	306.	79			
				TTL. 393	70
				TTL. 463	

\* = total and contributing structures

Before moving into the heart of this report, an explanation of its objective is necessary. Our attempt to interpret and present our findings has focused on the referencing and documented resources. We have made a conscientious effort to reference these resources according to three concepts. These concepts are; 1) Building Function 2) Building Form and 3) Observed Themes. Consequently, the bulk of the final report consists of the referencing which follows this introduction. Rounding out the paper is a discussion of the future priorities and research questions followed by a statement of limitations and biases. Although it appears to be a rather verbose and lengthy document, the report is intended to be a resource which is referenced to repeatedly in the discussion or research of historic structures. SAVE admits that to read this document in one sitting may become tiring and tedious, so it is our recommendation to focus on the format and referencing of the documented resources.

**Referencing : Function**





**Social Background**

The establishment of educational facilities in frontier Nebraska were needed for social and economic growth. To meet that requirement, public and private schools were started in the territorial period. An important act of the first territorial legislature was legislation providing for free public schools in the state of Nebraska. The Free Public School Act, passed in March, 1855, established the office of territorial superintendent. Each county superintendent was to divide his county into districts and notify residents to organize schools for the support of which he was authorized to levy a tax on all property in the county. People who settled Nebraska considered construction of a school of prime importance. From 1855-1880, school was irregular and sparsely attended. By the school year 1889 there were 4,408 school districts and 5,937 schools conducting class for at least six months.

**Summary of Findings**

The reconnaissance survey of Harlan and Franklin counties recorded 18 examples of Nebraska's historical educational facilities. The period of construction ranges from 1908 to 1936 which discounts any of these 18 sites as contributors to the original boom of school construction referred to above. However several fine examples of later construction do exist with many retaining their physical integrity.

In terms of resource location, a familiar pattern is once again observed. Similar to the results on church location, it was found that only two of the eighteen sites was in a rural setting. Speculation suggest that the decline of rural population has brought an end to the sentimental existence of the one-room school house. Compounding this further is the modern day concept of

□

school consolidation and the advent of rural busing programs.

There is somewhat of a balance among the eighteen sites in terms of construction materials. Eleven of the sites are constructed of brick masonry with the other seven made of wood framing. The brick structures displayed similar characteristics in that each site was of at least a two story height and consisted of a large rectangular plan in latitudinal orientation. The use of the rectangular plan was most popular with 17 of the 18 sites using this form. The tendency among the frame resources was to orient the building in a longitudinal direction with access through the narrow end. There were two structures with special associations to non-public organizations. The first is the Dupee Music Hall which is the only remaining structure of the Franklin Academy and which has recently met state approval for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The second is the Immaculate Conception Church School found on the property of the Immaculate Conception Church complex in Orleans. Completing the list of architecturally significant school structures worthy of potential listing is the Orleans High School HN04-15). It will not be necessary to include the Dupee Music Hall in the inventory of significant structures that follows and the Immaculate Conception School has been included with the church.

**LISTING:**

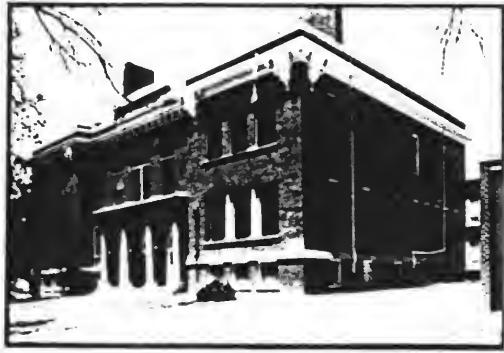
**SCHOOLS: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN**

HN00-26	FR00-62	FR05-9
HN01-61	FR01-13	FR06-18
HN02-2	FR02-30	FR07-29
HN03-4	FR03-1	FR08-3
HN04-15	" -27	
" -29	" -58	
" -57	FR04-18	

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

E

## Schools



### Architectural Description

\* I.S. N.R. = Intensive Survey and National Register suggested

HN04-15

I.S.  N.R.

The basic architectural form of the Orleans High School consists of a large rectangular plan with two slightly projecting hipped wings on the ends of the south facade. These end wings visually emphasize the entry to the school which has been placed in the recessed mass of the facade. Further emphasizing the entry is the placement of an engaged colonnade entry supporting a smooth entablature. A large projecting cornice encircles the structure with corner pendants added to the wings and brackets added to the central recessed mass. The height of the two-story brick school is emphasized by a raised basement and is sheltered by a low-pitched hip roof.

### Outline of Significance

HN04-15 ORLEANS HIGH SCHOOL 1908

- Relationship to context. Structure contributes to Orleans successful enclave of public buildings.
- Integrity. The structure remains in excellent, unaltered condition.
- Architectural detailing. The application of stylistic decoration.
- Displays greatest amount of design sense of educational facilities documented in the study area.



### Social Background

Churches, like schools, faced an uphill struggle to get started in territorial Nebraska. The Methodists were the first to establish regularly organized churches for the benefit of the settler. With their itinerant circuit riders, the Methodists were well organized to serve the needs of the frontier communities. The Methodists were also ardent revivalists and protracted revivals were cherished by frontier communities. It was at church services and functions that many townspeople and rural farmers could join together for mutual activities and a chance to converse. Many of the immigrants brought their religion with them from Europe and this accounts for the state's substantial Catholic and Lutheran groups. Religious groups impacted various social questions also, most notably the question of prohibition in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century and on the customs prevailing in many communities. Churches on the plains were an important factor in maintaining European patterns of life and thought.

### Summary of Findings

The reconnaissance level survey of Harlan and Franklin counties produced a total of 33 widely varied examples of Nebraska church architecture. These resources are a representative cross-section of ecclesiastical buildings constructed during the time frame of 1885 to 1930. Despite an emphasis on the diversity of our findings, two distinct similarities exist among these resources. One, the predominant location of the churches was in the towns with only 4 of the 33 found in rural settings. This suggests that most of the original rural churches have failed to survive the pressures of expanding farmland and declining rural population. The second connective quality is the use of frame construction in 26 of the 33 sites. Running a distant second are the six brick masonry churches

which can most likely be traced to the availability of the respective materials.

The diversity of the resources is found both in the denominations and the architecture (size, shape, style and integrity). Three examples of differing styles are found in: 1.) the greek revival detailing of the Stamford Catholic Church (HN08-16), 2.) the sullivan-esque character of the Immaculate Conception Church of Orleans (HN04-3), 3.) the use of prairie style in the First Christian Church of Alma (HN01-67). Various forms are evident ranging from modest one story rectangles (FR01-20) to large squares FR03-43) and from traditional latin cross (FR02-31) to the rare octagon (FR06-1).

With the ethnic settlement of Harlan and Franklin counties consisting of primarily of Germans and Swedes, it is not to surprising to find that three of the nine recorded denominations accounted for half of the sites. These are Lutheran (6), Methodist (8), and Evangelical Free Churches (3). Along with the expected existence of Catholic churches, other protestant denominations represented in the county were Presbyterian, Congregationalists, Missionary and First Christians. The following is a list of all 33 sites recorded.

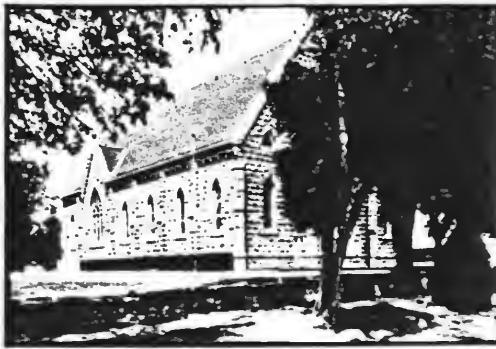
**LISTING:**

**CHURCHES: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN COUNTY**

HN00-2	HN04-39	FR00-32	FR03-43
" -45	HN06-13	" -65	FR04-11
HN01-23	" -15	FR01-6	" -12
" -50	HN08-8	" -19	FR05-1
" -67	" -16	" -20	FR06-1
" -72	" -30	FR02-28	" -5
HN02-3	" -32	" -31	FR07-7
HN04-3		FR03-15	FR08-21
		" -18	" -25

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

## Churches



### Architectural Description

HN04-3

I.S.  N.R.

The Immaculate Conception Church complex is composed of three visually and functionally dissimilar buildings. Within the boundaries of this site are a two-story frame parsonage.....a two-story brick school.....and an exceptionally well preserved stone church. While all three structures contribute to the importance of the site, it is the church which displays the greatest architectural significance. It is rectangular in plan with a corner tower and a subtle transept placed between the nave and chancel. A bold image is created by using large rusticated stone block walls supported by corner and side buttresses also made of stone. Single lancet windows pierce the thick walls along the first floor level with a round tracer window centrally located in the front gable. The entry is emphasized with a gabled stone portal which projects out from the center and is decorated with corner buttresses and grouped half columns supporting a pointed arch.

### Outline of Significance

HN04-3      IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH COMPLEX 1898

- Construction materials. The comparatively unique use of large rusticated stone blocks. Excellence of craftsmanship
- Significance as a religious/educational complex:
  - Physically- one square block consisting of four structures.  
church, school, parsonage and garage.
  - Culturally- The church represents a religious/educational philosophy of a specific community.
- Integrity. After numerous years of existence, the church remains in excellent condition.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Churches



### Architectural Description

FR02-31

I.W.  N.R.

The basic architectural form of St. Anne's Catholic Church consists of a latin cross plan with an engaged front central tower. A polygonal apse is placed at the rear of the church in what appears to be a later addition. The transept of the church is somewhat subtle due to its slight outward projection and comparatively shorter roof height. The church has a large gable roof with the transept also being gabled. The square bell tower is notched into the east gable end and becomes the visual landmark of the church as well as functioning as the entry. Pointed window openings pierce the side masonry walls and are visually linked by wall and hood mouldings. The transept contains a large pointed window decorated with interesting tracery.

### Outline of Significance

FR02-31 ST. ANNES CATHOLIC CHURCH

Employs significant form associated with historical ecclesiastical architecture.

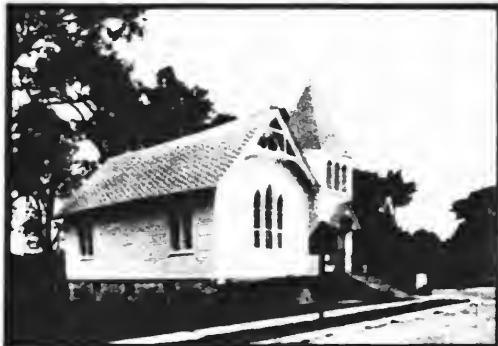
Importance of extant decorative detailing i.e. original stained glass.

Significant material use and excellence of craftsmanship.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Churches



### Architectural Description

FR07-7

I.S. N.R.

The Riverton Congregational Church. Built in 1885, this church consists of a frame, rectangular structure with corner tower which functions as the entry and houses the church bell. The tower has a hip roof. Gothic windows and a limestone foundation also appear.

### Outline of Significance

FR07-7 RIVERTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 1885

- Site of active community participation and religious importance for 100 years.
- Highly significant example of vernacular church construction.
- The structure retains its architectural and locational integrity.
- The church represents the period of importance for the settlement role of religion.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Churches



### Architectural Description

FRO2-28

I.S. N.R.

Trinity Lutheran is a small, frame, rectangular church. The front facade consists of a centralized steeple and centralized entry with one narrow gothic window on each side. Four equally spaced gothic windows stretch on both sides of the church. The parsonage is located adjacent to the church. Description for the parsonage is rectangular, one unit, one story, gabled roof and latitudinal/P:Fca:: S:H. Both structures have wood shingles on their roofs and both are in very good condition and are still in use.

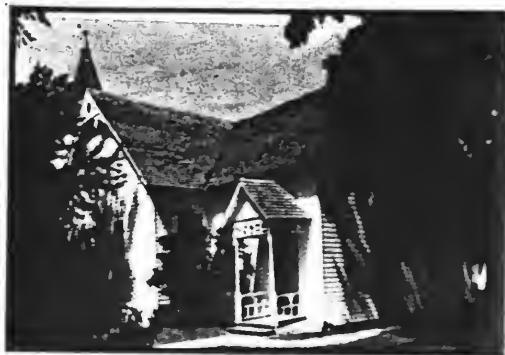
### Outline of Significance

FRO2-28      TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

- # Contextual integrity. Retains original surroundings including the parsonage.
- # A vernacular representative of the community's church architecture.
- # Physical expression of socially significant concept.



## Churches



## Architectural Description

HN04-39

 I.S.  N.R.

Built in 1885, the Orleans Evangelical Church consists of an unusual "T" shaped plan with an engaged corner bell tower that also functions as the main entry. A secondary entrance is found on the south end of the west facade. The church is built of wood frame construction with gable roofs sheltering the "T" of the plan and a pyramidal roof capping the tower. It is placed in a latitudinal orientation on its site and presents a gabled end detailed with decorative bargeboards. Additional decoration is found in the eastlake detailing of the small porch covering the secondary entrance

## Outline of Significance

HN04-39      ORLEANS EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH 1895

- # Physical representation of swedish settlement.
- # Architectural form. Unique "T" shaped plan with latitudinal orientation after entry.
- # Integrity. The church exterior remains unaltered.

### Social Background

During the winter of 1856-57, the first library in the territory of Nebraska was established in Omaha, then still an unincorporated village claiming a population of just 800 people. Shortly after, the institution was duly incorporated under the laws of the territory of Nebraska. The establishment of a library in the Omaha village at this time was more than just an ordinary event. It was an act of faith, hope and vision. Village and townspeople, often with little capital and faced with making a living in a new world, chose to burden themselves with further obligations of creating and maintaining a library. Some wished to promote a library for their children and future generations; others were motivated by civic pride and a desire to copy the best features of the big eastern cities and community leaders saw it as a selling point to attract more settlers to the area. Desires to further adult education were also a factor in the decision to build a library.

### Summary of Findings

The public enthusiasm supporting the establishment of libraries in the urban areas of eastern Nebraska is also evidenced in the larger communities of Harlan and Franklin counties. Diversification of building types is usually greatest in larger communities due to their ability to generate public interest and supportive income. Of the four largest towns in the study area capable of such support, three contained libraries of noted architectural significance. These three were found in the communities of Alma, Orleans and Franklin and were the only structures of their typology found in the study area. Because of the limited number of resources to draw upon, generalizations concerning similarities or dissimilarities becomes difficult. In addition, an elaboration of each site

will not be necessary because each of these sites were considered worthy of intensive survey and national register listing and will be individually expanded upon in the inventory that follows.

Before moving on however, there are two observations worth mentioning. The first is the consistent application of architectural style in each case. A discernable style has been employed in the form and detailing of the building. The Cordelia B. Preston library in Orleans has been given classical decoration, The Alma library displays an ecclastic dutch-franco image and the Franklin Public Library has distinctive georgian elements.

The second observation is the importance of the contextual setting. In each case, each structure has been given an environmental setting which complements its aesthetics. The buildings have been "played" against a natural backdrop of grass, vegetation and open space which creates a visual sense of importance.

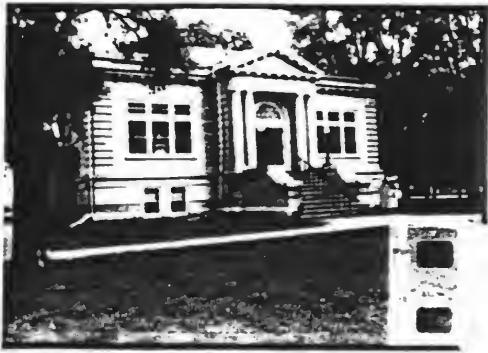
#### **LISTING:**

##### **LIBRARIES: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN**

HN01-49      FRO3-46  
HN04-52

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

## Libraries



### Architectural Description

HN04-52

I.S.  N.R.

Cordelia B. Preston Library, 1917. Reminiscent of a monumental public building, the Cordelia B. Preston Library in Orleans has borrowed the stylistic detailing used in Classical Roman Architecture. The "public facade" has been emphasized with a pedimented portico supported by paired Roman Order columns. The library's relatively small one-story height has been exaggerated using a plinth-like raised basement and grand staircase. Further classical detailing on this brick structure are; a bracketed projecting cornice, modified brick quoins, an exaggerated north entry and a smooth architrave and frieze.

### Outline of Significance

HN04-52      CORDELIA B. PRESTON LIBRARY 1917

- Architectural significance based on successful application of classical detail.
- Examplifies built cultural heritage of community.
- Additional significance for preservation of architectural integrity.
- Contextual contribution to significant enclave of structures in Orleans.



## Libraries



### Architectural Description

HN01-49 ALMA PUBLIC LIBRARY 1911

I.S. N.R.

Although identification of a "style" in describing historic structures is not always essential, the attempt to label Alma's public library is a curious challenge. With its gable end parapets and semi-circular false front portico, the library has a sense of Victorian imagery. Whatever the case, the building is "T" shaped in plan and presents a latitudinal facade to the street. This facade is emphasized by a central portico and entrance staircase. The raised basement and load bearing walls are constructed of brick materials. The main level contains segmental window openings with curious rectangular lintels.

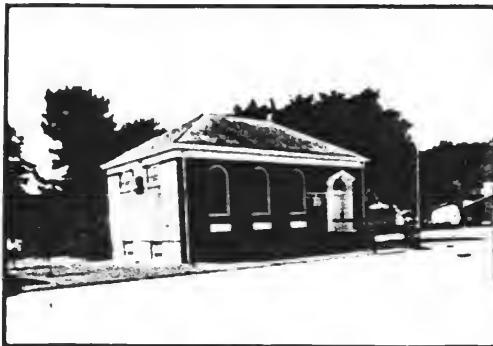
### Outline of Significance

HN01-49 ALMA PUBLIC LIBRARY 1911

- Functional significance. Contributing to the "culturing" of society.
- Significant representative of limited resource in study area.
- The use of architectural decoration as manifested in stylistic detailing.
- Constructed during this typology's period of historical significance.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:

## Libraries



### Architectural Description

FRO3-46

HI.S. N.R.

Franklin Public Library. Raised one story rectangular library made from red brick. This building has a hipped roof with offset chimney. Orientation is latitudinal. The front facade consists of three Georgian windows and an end entry. The entry is emphasized by wooden pilasters and triangular portico with an arched transom. Condition of this site is very good and it is still in use as the public library of Franklin.

### Outline of Significance

FRO3-46 FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY 1916

- # Application of architectural style. i.e. Georigan characteristics.
- # Contributes to the limited but exceptional group of public libraries found in the study area.
- # Extant resource of a rare function within the study area.
- # Integrity. Structure remains in unaltered condition.



### Social Background

The expansion of settlement in Nebraska from the 1860s to 1890 was due primarily to the construction of the railroad through the state, making settlement possible away from the Missouri River; one of the few navigable rivers. By the late 1860s, rail lines were taking people and freight as far west as Kearney. Once established, the railroad companies advertised to immigrant settlers since much of their land was available for settlement and profits could be made both in selling the land and carrying the commerce that usually came about with it. Many railroad advertisements encouraged group removals to Nebraska and many of the states communities were settled on that basis. Often, one of the first buildings new settlers and immigrants saw after reaching the prairie was the railroad depots. These depots were also valuable landmarks because they signaled the beginning and end to the journey of many settlers, afforded a chance to move to other areas, and received much of the commerce needed to settle and persist on the plains. Many of the townsites were located directly around the depot as it served as a direct link with the east, as well as their capital, and was a valuable pickup point for grains and commodities needed by area settlers.

### Summary of Findings

Railroad lines provided the main lines used in transporting the farmers crops to other areas. Because of this importance, all of the elevators, the new creamery, and the brick mill are located adjacent to the tracks. The old creamery is located in town near the downtown district, while all other sites are located near the perimeter of each corresponding town.

Railroads played an important role in the growth of small towns, namely in Franklin and Harlan counties. In conjunction with the railroad came the depot. In the survey area of Franklin and Harlan counties, a total of three sites were found; two in Alma and one in Orleans. Though each of the depots are different in character, they all have similar features. These similarities include; bracket eaves, a shallow hip or gable roof, rectangular plan and frame construction. Whereas major depots were constructed of stone or brick. The less important stations, such as those in Alma and Orleans, were of the frame with clapboard method. Adaptive use for the two depots in Alma include; the conversion of the Roseland depot of Adams county to "The Golden Spike," a theme restaurant which reflects the historical depot. A golfcourse clubhouse houses the old Alma depot. Both depots had to be relocated before being renovated. The Orleans depot still stands on its original site but remains unused.

**LISTING:****DEPOTS: HARLAN**

HN01-1

" -2

" -3

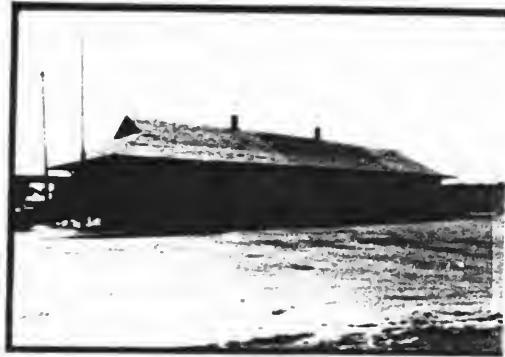
" -4

HN04-2

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Depots



### Architectural Description

HN04-2 ORLEANS DEPOT

II.S. N.R.

The Orleans depot, despite abandonment, is fortunate enough to have retained both its original condition and location. The structure echo's the form and image associated with other buildings from its typology. It consists of a long rectangular plan and is built using a wood frame construction. It is sheltered by a gabled roof with curved eave brackets. Double chimney's pierce the roof at the central ridge of the roof.

### Outline of Significance

HN04-2 ORLEANS DEPOT

- # Most significant example of limited typology within the study area.
- # Retains original location and architectural integrity.
- # Contributes to enclave of commercial structures adjacent to the railroad.
- # Built representative of significant settlement phenomenon.



### Social Background

The rise of the cooperative as a flourishing business occurred sometime between 1890 and 1920. It featured cooperative action in all aspects of the marketing problem; selling, buying and shipping. The twentieth century marked the real beginning of the active push for elevators run by and for the farmer. Cooperatives were the only avenue for successful action because private grain dealers were working from a position of solidarity and strength with little regard for the plight of the farmer. Yet, until the monopolistic methods of the line elevators could be broken, cooperatives had little chance to become competitive. The Ramsey Act was the first major step to help the farmers acquire equal privileges along railroad right-of-ways. Passed in April, 1903, the bill was championed by Rep. J.H. Ramsey of Filley, Gage County and the work of Cuthbert Vincent, editor of the Central Farmer. It was Vincent who organized the Nebraska Farmers Cooperative Grain and Livestock Association. Greatly strengthening the Ramsey Act was the Junkin Act of 1905, which sought to restrain the monopoly of trade and interstate commerce. As Roadblocks to unfair competition were removed, it was necessary to draft new laws to achieve legal protection for cooperatives. The end result was the passage of the first cooperative law in Nebraska in 1911, which greatly enhanced the farmers standing in marketing their grain and sharing in the profits.

### Summary of Findings

During the 1985 summer reconnaissance survey, Save Americas Heritage documented 9 elevators, 2 creameries and 1 mill. These commercial agricultural buildings provided an ever growing need to consolidate farmers goods and as

the farming industry grew, so did the need for storage buildings. The shape of the elevator began as verticle structures and rectangular in plan. The main dominating characteristic of all elevators surveyed was the centralized shaft which stretched upward from the main core. These shafts are smaller than the storage structures and have gabled roofs. All elevators are of frame construction with wood siding. Over the years the application of tin siding has altered the elevators original apperance. As the need for more storage space grew, the profile of the grain elevators increased. Additions to the main core occured on the sides of the core. Later technology brought about cylindrical elevators and their popularity soon dominated the grain storage industry. Today we see the original elevators still in use but somewhat hidden by the cylindrical units, all connected by pipes and tubes.

The two creameries found are both located in Orleans which is in Harlan County. The original creamery is frame construction with wood siding. Brick masonry construction is prevelant in the later built creamery. Size between the two structures varies greatly with the brick building being much larger. This larger 2 story structure is crumbling rapidly. The original creamery stands intact. Campbell is the only town in the survey area that has an existing mill. Windows have been boarded on the 3 story structure and use of the mill has stopped.

#### LISTING:

#### COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL BUILDINGS: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN

HN01-32	HN04-53	HN06-11	FR02-20
" -33	" -73	HN07-7	FR07-11
HN02-9	" -74	HN08-23	" -14

**Commercial Agriculture****Architectural Description**

FR02-20

 I.S.  N.R.

A three story brick mill with gable roof and arched brick lintels, corner pilasters as well as three wall pilasters. Pattern: corner pilaster, window, pilaster, window, pilaster, window, pilaster, window, corner pilaster. The mill is situated on the railroad line and is in poor condition. Windows have been boarded and grain elevators now ajoin and interrupt the mill's structure as well as its clarity.

**Outline of Significance**

FR02-20 KOCH MILLS

- Only extant resource of this typology within the study area.
- Architectural significance based on scale and material use.
- Despite abandonment, the structure retains exterior integrity.
- Significance of economic role to community during period of importance.



### Social Background

One of the problems faced by early settlers who came to Nebraska was where to settle on such a wide expanse of open prairie where little water or timber was available. The most important consideration for farmers in regard to their occupancy was the access to timber. An early farmer was influenced on where he would settle in a particular locale based on the sufficiency of timber for use in construction, fencing, firewood, and repairs. Those who did not settle where the timber was readily available were required to haul the timber to their farms, often several miles away. Early farmers were also highly urbanized in their background and few farmers attempted to locate further than a mile or two from their neighbors. This practice was useful in emergencies when help was needed, at harvest time and planting, and when borrowing from a neighbor. The farmhouse was often constructed of local timber and in a line between timber and prairie. Many were small framed farmhouses but built to protect the family from the rigors of winter and often added onto as deemed necessary. Once the towns were established and the lumber yards emerged, farmers were able to buy shipped timber of superior quality and to erect larger, more convenient farmhouses of varying shapes and sizes. In addition to larger farmhouses, during the eighties the use of the silo came into practice. The concept was imported to America from France and expanded the farmers capability. Permanent silos were made above ground in verticle cylinders made of lumber or brick. During the dry years, even if the stalks did not produce any grain the silo made the stalks edible by pickling them.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Farmsteads



### Architectural Description

HN00-31

I.I.S. I.N.R.

Willard Latta farmstead. Constructed in 1885, the Latta residence is built from native stone and consists of a central two story square block with a one story rectangular wing added to the south. This wing has a continuous frame wrap-a-round porch that is open on the south and east facades and enclosed on the west. The square core has a truncated hip roof which is repeated on the rectangular addition. Flat stone sills are placed beneath the windows and doors with segmental keystone lintels, also of stone, used above the openings.

### Outline of Significance

HN00-31 WILLARD LATTA STONE HOUSE 1885

- # Architectural significance based on unique material use, scale and image.
- tt Significant as example of rural vernacular residence.
- tt Purportedly a post-office with the pony express.
- tt Structure is in excellent condition despite its 100 year existence.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Farmsteads



### Architectural Description

FROO-68

I.S. N.R.

Quartzite rock house. This uncommon house is rectangular in plan, has a gable roof and is orientated longitudinal. The house has narrow vertical windows with stone lintels. Two chimneys once appeared on each end of the house but the house has been abandoned and is fast deteriorating. A frame porch once stood on the side of the house and had two entrances into the house. A rock cellar is nearby and is in poor condition. The inside framework of the house has been removed. The quartzite is in good condition though.

### Outline of Significance

FROO-68 QUARTZITE ROCK HOUSE

- Highly significant representative of rural vernacular building.
- Major contribution to identified theme: Quartzite Rock Houses of Franklin County.
- Architectural significance based on material use and excellence of craftsmanship.
- Integrity. Despite being abandoned, the house retains its vernacular characteristics.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Farmsteads



### Architectural Description

FR00-6

I.S.  N.R.

This is a limestone house, rectangular,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  stories, gable roof with centralized front facade wing comprised of a frame, rectangular unit, gable roof and double door entrance with a gothic window above. An interesting house, it has been abandoned for some time. The limestone wall on the front facade has crumbled and fallen down. Condition of the house is poor and the farmstead has collapsed outbuildings.

### Outline of Significance

FR00-6      STONE HOUSE 1890

- Rural residence of prominent individual of Riverton community.
- Architectural significance based on use of stone construction and application of stylistic detailing on public facade.
- Significant representative of rural vernacular architecture.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Farmsteads



### Architectural Description

FR00-14

HI.S. N.R.

A large farmstead consisting of two frame barns with gable roofs, one frame shed with gable roof, one frame garage with gable roof, one frame cattle shed with shed roof and "T" shaped house. The house is one story,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  units, cross gable roof and latitudinal. Frame with wood shingled roof, centralized front door. Condition of the outbuildings and the house is very good and all are .. still in use.

### Outline of Significance

FR00-14 FARMSTEAD

- Significant example of composite structures associated with cattle industry.
- Architectural contribution of farmhouse to farm complex.
- Integrity. Preserved condition of farm layout and cattle associated buildings.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

## Farmsteads



### Architectural Description

FR00-30

I.S. N.R.

A large farmstead consisting of a group of frame outbuildings and a large farmhouse. The house can be described as a square,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  units, two story with hipped roof. Extra feature include front gable wall dormer with second story balcony and an oval window in the attic section of the wall dormer. The house also has a centralized entry and wood shingles on the roof. The site is set back from the county road and is landscaped with cedars as well as deciduous trees. The house is still in use and is in good condition.

### Outline of Significance

FR00-30      FARMHOUSE

- Architectural significance based on integrity of detail and landscaped surrounding.
- Represents primary structure of the farm complex.
- Is indicative of successful farm industry in period of historical importance

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

## Farmsteads



### Architectural Description

HN00-24

I.S.  N.R.

Large farmstead consisting of; two large frame barns with gable roofs and a cupola on each barn, turkey tail and hayloft with the larger barn; large square, two story farmhouse with gable wall dormer on the side, two second story gable additions off the side and rear,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story gable roof wing on the rear. Other features include; wrap-a-round porch, central chimney, chimney on  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story rear wing, woop shingles, screen porch off  $1\frac{1}{2}$  story addition. Abandon.

### Outline of Significance

HN00-24 FARMSTEAD

- Leading example of composite structures associated with farming industry.
- Integrity. The preserved condition of all farm structures in original locations.
- Contribution of architecturally significant house to farm complex.
- Architectural significance of house based on scale, detail and functional role.

## Farmsteads



### Architectural Description

FR00-28

HI.S. N.R.

Farmstead consisting of a frame house and a frame outbuilding. The house is square, one unit, one story, hip roof and no orientation. Unique features include; a shallow gable roof on the front facade, embanked basement where the front of the house is one story while the back opens up to the basement and is level. The corner bay window is located on the rear wall of the basement level. There are full length narrow windows on both levels. The frame outbuildings are rectangular with gable roof. It has a centralized chimney and longitudinal orientation. The function of this building was probably as a summer kitchen. The site is abandoned and is deteriorating.

### Outline of Significance

FR00-28      HOUSE

- Unique physical relationship to typography of the site.
- Contextual significance. Comparatively unique character within the study area.
- Uncommon adaptation of domestic square form.
- Relationship to typological period of historic importance.

## Function: Commercial Buildings



### Social Background

Commercial building began to appear almost as fast as townships were organized. Repeatedly, these buildings were the first to be erected in newly created towns. They were developed first because of their importance to the town and the surrounding rural areas. With the great influx of settlers and immigrants, and the rapid expansion of numerous towns and communities, the importance of commercial outlets was very real. People were constantly in need of supplies for their farmsteads and journeys across the territory as well as a place to sell their own commercial and agricultural products. As the process of mass consumption continued, it became evident that mass production would also be needed and thus more commerce was opened. Retail outlets made standard products available to the common man and offered a wide variety of choice. Wholesale outlets dealt in larger volumes at lower prices and usually catered to smaller established retailers as well as large and well to do farmsteads. Perhaps the greatest assistance to commerce on the prairie was the practice of free-enterprise in business. This practice made virtually all men equal in business practices and offered the opportunity for young entrepreneurs to set their own standards and challenge those of others. In short, it helped to create a healthy business climate in the early stages of settlement on the plains and in the state of Nebraska.

### Summary of Findings

Commercial districts in the small towns surveyed displayed a variety of building types. If we sort the 81 surveyed sites into different categories, patterns will emerge which can give some historical background to these specialized structures. A breakup of the building materials reveals; 50 brick,

17 frame, 6 concrete block, 4 stone, 3 masonry with pressed tin and 1 masonry with cast-iron. Frame construction dominated early methods of commercial building because wood was easy to work with and plentiful. As towns grew so did the concern for fire prevention. Downtowns became more dense and if fire broke out among the buildings, the total district could have been lost. Stone/masonry construction provided a more permanent setting for business and decreased the chance for fire. Town councils soon adopted city ordinances which stipulated that all downtown buildings must be built out of masonry, brick or stone.

By looking at the numbers again we see that 163 commercial buildings are only one story high. Two story buildings occupy 17 sites followed by one three story structure. Small businesses of varying types are housed in 57 of these commercial buildings. More specific buildings include; 5 grocery stores, 5 lumber yards, 8 banks and 3 hotels.

Corbeling and decorative metal cornices are common features associated with the brick buildings. Arched window hoods occur in many of the second story windows of the two story structures. All of the frame structures are one story in height with false fronts. Buildings of stone gave a feeling of permanence and housed the financial institution of governmental operations. Examples are the two Greek Revival banks found in Upland and Campbell. Buildings with tin facades boasted ornamental detailing and showed the diversity of the metal. A unique cast-iron building also boasted the new advances in metal construction methods. The concrete block buildings display no decorative work and have a heavy, solid appearance.

All five lumber yards are similar in form. Construction is frame with clapboard siding, one story with a tall centralized passage containing clerestory

windows. They all occupy large corner lots also. Banks too are found on corner lots but unlike the lumber yards, these institutions are located in the heart of the downtown. The following is a list of the 81 commercial building surveyed.

**LISTING:**

**COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS: FRANKLIN**

FR01-2	FR02-18	FR03-62	FR07-19
" -8	" -19	" -90	" -20
" -9	FR03-47	FR04-22	" -21
FR02-9	" -49	" -23	" -23
" -10	" -50	" -25	" -24
" -11	" -52	FR06-21	" -25
" -12	" -53	" -23	FR08-31
" -13	" -54	" -24	" -34
" -14	" -55	" -26	" -35
" -16	" -60	" -28	" -36
" -17	" -61	FR07-17	" -38

**COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS: HARLAN**

HN01-43	HN02-6	HN04-45	HN08-1
" -44	" -7	" -46	" -2
" -45	" -10	" -47	" -3
" -46	HN04-1	" -48	" -5
" -47	" -17	" -49	
" -48	" -19	" -50	
" -69	" -41	" -51	
" -97	" -42	HN06-12	
" -98	" -43	" -16	
" -101	" -44	HN07-1	

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

## Commercial Buildings



### Architectural Description

HN01-101

I.S.  N.R.

The main characteristic lending significance to this structure is the survival of the cast-iron facade found on the upper story. This facade covers two commercial lots in what appears to have been a side by side business venture established by Frank and C.L. Myers. Although the lower story retains its original shape, most of the historic materials have been replaced. An A B A A B A rhythm has been placed on the facade with the B bays emphasized through semi-circular windows and a pedimented parapet. The remaining facade has been topped with a continuous bracketed cornice.

### Outline of Significance

#### HN01-101 JOHN AND C.L. MYERS COMMERCIAL BUILDING

- Significant representative of commerce industry from period of historical importance.
- Architectural significance based on existence of cast-iron facade and upper level.
- Contextual significance. Retains integrity in enclave damaged by modern alterations.
- Individual integrity. 2 bays remain extant of original 3 bay structure.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Commercial Buildings



### Architectural Description

FR07-21

I.S.  N.R.

Waaley and Wickstrom building. This tall and narrow commercial building is made of red brick. The front facade consists of a central door with display windows on each side. Two paired sets of arched windows appear on the second story of the front facade. Five vertical windows appear on each side of the building. Corbeling work is prevalent on the front and side facades. The building is in very good shape and is still in use.

### Outline of Significance

FR07-21 WHALEY AND WICKSTROM COMMERCIAL BUILDING 1903

- # Built representative of the commerce industry and its perceived social image.
- # The most ambitious and monumental commercial structure within the community.
- # The use of masonry architectural detailing.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

## Commercial Buildings



### Architectural Description

HN04-51

I.S.  N.R.

Constructed in 1885, the Manning and Preston commercial building displays the typical division of the first floor glass in a cast-iron frame and a second floor masonry wall. The complimentary decorative trim of this structure includes a bracketed cast-iron cornice with a cast-iron parapet. Brick corbeling is located under the cornice with polychromatic bands of stone in the engaged pilasters of the second level. The round openings of the second floor windows have been capped with cast-iron hood mouldings. The facade has an odd, unbalanced symmetry suggesting that it is perhaps a piece of what was once a larger structure.

### Outline of Significance

HN04-51 MANNING AND PRESTON COMMERCIAL BUILDING 1885

- Contextual contribution to significant enclave of structures in Orleans.
- Commercial enterprise of prominent citizens in the community.
- Architectural significance based on preserved details and material of the structure.
- Significant for important commercial role provided to the community.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Commercial Buildings



### Architectural Description

FR02-10

I.S.  N.R.

The Campbell State Bank. This bank is comprised of a rectangular building with gable roof but is characterized by its two story Greek Revival false front. Four ionic columns stretch the full two stories of the stone structure and act as supports for the entablature and pediment. An arched centralized entry with arched windows on each side also occur. The condition of the bank is good and it is still in use.

### Outline of Significance

FR02-10 CAMPBELL STATE BANK

- II Significant example of Greek Revival imagery as applied to commercial financial institutions.
- ¶ Significance as building typology commercially necessary to the community.
- ¶ Built representative of important period in great plains settlement history.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

## Commercial Buildings



### Architectural Description

HN04-42

I.S. N.R.

The basic geometric shape of this brick hotel consists of a simple two-story rectangular plan with a one-story enclosed entry porch attached to the southwest corner. The height of the structure is visually emphasized by a raised basement and steeped corner parapets. Architectural detailing occurs in the brick corbel work running horizontally across the top of the second level and climbing vertically up the facade. In addition smooth brick quoins have been added to the corners.

### Outline of Significance

HN04-42 HOTEL 1907

- Structure retains its architectural integrity.
- Significant representative of a comparatively unique building typology.
- Architectural significance based on scale, application to stylistic detail and use of material.
- Structure contributes to district of significant structures.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## Commercial Buildings



### Architectural Description

FR03-55

I.S.  N.R.

The "Lincoln Hotel" is Franklin's oldest surviving hotel. Made out of dark brick, this three story hotel dominates the downtown commercial district. Features include; stone lintels, stone entablature with dentals and flat parapet roof. The "Lincoln" is based on a U-shaped plan. The U-shape allows for a large gabled skylight which provides outdoor light to the entry-way and open staircase. A restauraunt is located on the first level with hotel rooms occupying second and third story levels. This hotel is still in use and is in good condition.

### Outline of Significance

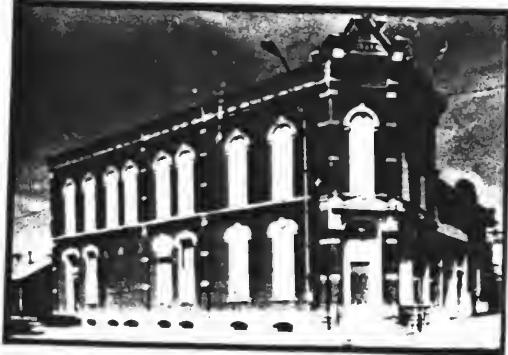
FR03-55 LINCOLN HOTEL 1917

- Focal point of the community both visually and socially.
- The most monumental, ambitious example of this typology within the study area.
- Employs stylistic details in a structure which represents a historically impressive effort of construction.
- Retains historical integrity on interior and exterior.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES



## Commercial Buildings



### Architectural Description

HN04-46

H.I.S. H.N.R.

This two-story brick structure, built in 1885, recalls the typical bank form discussed earlier in HN01-97. As mentioned, the most consistant feature of this typology is the truncated corner which serves as the entry and main decorative element. A bracketed cast-iron cornice appears at both first and second story heights and is capped on the upper level by an elaborate cast-iron parapet. The structure is placed on a raised stone foundation which is pierced by segmental window openings. The first floor windows have been decorated with segmental hood mouldings, while the second floor openings are semi-circular in structural shape and have been finished with round hood mouldings. Additional decoration is seen in the polychromatic banding of the engaged pilasters and brick corbeling below the cornice.

### Outline of Significance

HN04-46

- Architectural significance based on material detailing and decorative elaboration.
- Most significant representative of financial architecture documented in the study area.
- Provided economically important role necessary to community existence.
- Contribution to context of significant structures of Orleans.

## Additional Referencing



### GOVERNMENTAL AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN COUNTY

HN01-100	HN04-4	HN04-59	HN08-6	FR03-30	FR03-48	FR07-18
" -102	" -16	" -74	FR01-4	" -37	" -51	" -22
HN02-1	" -55	HN06-1	" -11	" -44	FR06-25	FR08-32
						" -37

### CEMETERIES: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN COUNTY

HN00-9	HN00-35	FR00-33				
" -12	" -36	" -35				
" -17	" -42	" -47				
" -22	" -48	" -50				
" -32	FR00-23	FR01-30				

### BARNs: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN COUNTY

HN00-14	HN00-28	HN00-50
" -16	" -29	FR00-8
		" -63

### MISCELLANEOUS: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN

HN01-99	FR01-17	FR07-9
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### INDUSTRIAL: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN COUNTY

FR01-26	FR04-32
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### ARCHEALOGICAL: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN

HN00-51
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### GAS STATIONS/GARAGES: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN COUNTY

HN01-35	HN08-4	FR02-7	FR06-20	FR08-33
HN04-18	" -6	FR03-92	" -22	" -34
" -19	FR01-5	FR04-24	" -27	

### BRIDGES: HARLAN AND FRANKLIN

HN00-1	FR00-1
" -2	
" -55	
" -64	
" -70	

**Referencing : Form**





### Social Background

Many of the attempts to organize towns in Nebraska were by groups who wanted a stake in the future. Starting a town from the bottom up was a very real and exciting possibility. The procedure was simple: a group of financially backed promoters would organize a town company, stake out 320 acres under the Federal Townsites Act and to make the town larger, individuals would pre-empt adjacent quarter sections. The site was then cut into lots 125 feet by 25 feet and shares sold at 10 lots per share. At first opportunity, the legislature was petitioned for a special act of incorporation. A distinct advantage was to plat your town near a line of transportation such as a railroad or river. This greatly elevated the status of the town since shipping of commercial and farm goods was of prime importance. Another important consideration in the selection of a town site was its proximity to timber and water; each a necessity to the eventual settler. Farmers often resided in town and worked out in the fields. For many the motivation was the desire to speculate on town property. By farming from town, an unearned profit was made from the inflating price of the town lot.

### Summary of Findings

The emergence of domestic architecture distinguished between work and home and the styles changed accordingly. On the individual homes, the house and the individual shared identification. People began to associate a house with the identification of the homeowner and it was his home that told something of his place in town as he was perceived by the townspeople. The overall importance of townships lie with their opportunity for employment and business enterprising and the supply of goods made available to immigrants and settlers. This opportunity for and access to people was a deciding factor for many to remain as a resident and grow with the fortunes of the town.

## Summary of Findings

It is no surprise that domestic architecture is the most frequently recorded resource in reconnaissance level survey projects. The Harlan and Franklin county survey was no exception producing a documented total of 468 residential resources. The preservation of this building type can be attributed to the continuing social need for shelter and the predominant location of residences in towns where the opportunity for occupancy is higher. The recording of residential structures in the Harlan and Franklin county survey included not only occupied resources but abandoned as well. In addition, all houses that were surveyed as part of a church site or farmstead were included in the three categories of referencing applied to this typology. These three categories are: 1.) Form, 2.) Material and 3.) The Material of Forms. However, with the implementation of supratypology in the recording of these historic resources (as developed by the Midwest Vernacular Architecture Committee) the observance of form becomes primary. Because of this, all residences recorded will be listed in the following pages according to their respective forms. These are; Square (S), Rectangular (R), "T" shaped (T), "L" shaped (L), Cross (X) and Irregular (I). The remaining information pertaining to material and material of forms is found within the referencing table on the following page. Before moving on, there are a few observations evident from the table which should be discussed.

The Harlan and Franklin county survey produced a total of 849 structures and of these 468 or 55.1% were residences. Eighty five percent of these were found within communities with the remaining 15% in rural locations. Franklin county produced the greatest number of houses with 269 or 57.5% of the total, while Harlan produced 199 or 42.5%. Of the 468 recorded sites 48% were of rectangular form, 33% were square, 13% "T" shaped and 2.5% were "L" shaped. The most common construction material was wood frame which comprised 93.4% of the total. A distant second was brick with only 2.5% or 12 total structures.

# Summary of Residential Resources

TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECT RESOURCES: 849

TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL RESOURCES: 468.....55.1% of project total

FRANKLIN COUNTY RESIDENTIAL RESOURCE TOTAL: 269.....57.5% of residential total

HARLAN COUNTY RESIDENTIAL RESOURCE TOTAL: 199.....42.5% of residential total

## FRANKLIN COUNTY RESIDENTIAL RESOURCES:

### MATERIAL:

	Frame	Brick	Stone	Conc. Blk.	Unknown	total
Number	248	6	4	2	9	269
Percentage	92.2%	2.2%	1.5%	.75%	3.3%	100%

### SHAPE:

	S	R	T	L	X	Irr.	Sub. TTL.	Unknown	Total
Number	86	132	34	6	0	2	260	9	269
Percentage	32%	49.3%	12.7%	2.2%	0	.75%	97%	3%	100%

### MATERIAL OF SHAPE:

	S	R	T	L	X	Irr.
Frame	81=94.2%	126=95.5%	34=100%	5=83.3%	--	--
Brick	3=3.5%	3=2.3%	--	--	--	--
Conc. Blk.	--	1=.75%	--	1=16.7%	--	--
Stone	2=2.3%	2=1.5%	--	--	--	--

## HARLAN COUNTY RESIDENTIAL RESOURCES:

### MATERIAL:

	Frame	Brick	Log	Stone	Stucco	Unknown	Total
Number	189	6	2	1	1	0	199
Percentage	95%	3%	1%	.5%	.5%	0	100%

### SHAPE

	S	R	T	L	X	Irr.	Sub. TTL.	Unknown	Total
Number	67	91	28	6	1	6	199	0	199
Percentage	33.7%	45.7%	14.1%	3.0%	.5%	3.0%	100%	0	100%

### MATERIAL OF SHAPE:

	S	R	T	L	X	Irr.
Frame	66=98.5%	83=91.2%	27=96.4%	6=100%	1=100%	6=100%
Brick	--	6=6.5%	--	--	--	--
Log	--	2=2.2%	--	--	--	--
Stone	1=1.5%	--	--	--	--	--
Stucco	--	--	1=3.6%	--	--	--

FRANKLIN COUNTY

FR00-3	FR01-15	FR02-29	FR03-31	FR04-2	FR06-31
" -11	" -18	" -32	" -34	" -4	" -33
" -13	" -23	" -38	" -36	" -5	FR07-12
" -16	" -25	" -40	" -42	" -6	" -27
" -25	FR02-1	" -44	" -56	" -7	" -28
" -26	" -4	" -49	" -80	" -8	FR08-10
" -28	" -6	FR03-6	" -82	" -20	" -14
" -29	" -15	" -10	" -83	" -29	" -17
" -51	" -21	" -13	" -86	FR05-8	" -18
" -54	" -22	" -16	" -87	FR06-10	" -19
" -57	" -23	" -17	" -89	" -12	" -26
" -69	" -24	" -24	FR03-93	" -15	" -27
" -71	" -25	" -28	" -94	" -17	" -30
FR01-3	" -27	" -29	FR04-1	" -19	

HARLAN COUNTY

HN00-18	HN01-26	HN01-59	HN01-92	HN04-31	HN08-14
" -31	" -27	" -62	HN02-4	" -32	" -15
HN01-8	" -29	" -64	HN03-2	" -67	" -16
" -9	" -30	" -65	" -5	" -69	" -17
" -10	" -34	" -66	HN04-7	" -71	" -24
" -11	" -37	" -73	" -10	" -72	" -27
" -14	" -39	" -76	" -11	HN06-2	" -28
" -19	" -41	" -80	" -14	" -6	" -31
" -22	" -42	" -81	" -25	HN08-9	" -33
" -24	" -54	" -90	" -27	" -10	" -35
" -25	" -56	" -91	" -30	" -11	



## SQUARES

**Architectural Description**

\* I.S. N.R. = Intensive Survey and National Register suggested  
HN01-54

I.S. N.R.

The true shape of this house has been deceptively hidden through several decorative features. It is actually a glorified version of the commonly found vernacular one story square. The major features disguising its true identity are two gable wings placed in an "L" relationship. The two wings project out of the south and east facades and form the enclosure of a sweeping wrap-a-round porch. The porch has been decorated with rock-faced concrete block pedestals topped by paired wood doric columns. The east wing is part of the "public facade" and is therefore given a moulded frieze, leaded windows, fishscale shingling and a one story cut out bay. Added to this public image is a sweep dormer placed in the center of a high-hipped roof which was finished with a perforated cresting.

**Outline of Significance**HN01-54      HOUSE

- # Represents the domestic phenomenon of applying extensive architectural decoration to a basic vernacular building form.
- # Integrity. The structure is in exceptional condition and retains its original form.
- # Significant representative of Alma's vernacular domestic building.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

FR00-6	FR01-22	FR03-5	FR03-65	FR04-10	FR06-32
" -7	" -24	" -7	" -66	" -13	FR07-8
" -10	" -27	" -9	" -67	" -16	" -10
" -12	" -29	" -11	" -68	" -19	" -15
" -27	FR02-2	" -14	" -69	" -21	" -16
" -36	" -8	" -20	" -70	" -26	" -26
" -43	" -26	" -21	" -71	" -27	" -30
" -44	" -28	" -22	" -73	" -31	" -31
" -47	" -33	" -23	" -74	" -33	FR08-1
" -48	" -34	" -25	" -75	FR05-6	" -2
" -53	" -35	" -26	" -76	" -7	" -7
" -56	" -36	" -32	" -78	" -10	" -8
" -58	" -39	" -35	" -79	FR06-3	" -9
" -59	" -41	" -38	" -81	" -6	" -11
" -60	" -42	" -39	" -85	" -7	" -12
" -61	" -45	" -40	" -95	" -8	" -16
" -66	" -46	" -45	" -96	" -9	" -17
" -67	" -48	" -57	" -97	" -11	" -20
" -68	FR03-2	" -59	" -98	" -14	" -22
FR01-10	" -3	" -63	FR04-3	" -16	" -23
" -21	" -4	" -64	" -9	" -29	" -24
<u>HARLAN COUNTY</u>					
" -28					

HN00-6	HN01-21	HN01-77	HN04-3	HN04-54	HN06-17
" -13	" -31	" -78	" -9	" -56	HN07-2
" -23	" -36	-79	" -12	" -58	" -6
" -30	" -50	-82	" -13	" -60	HN08-7
" -34	" -53	-84	" -20	" -63	" -12
" -44	" -57	-86	" -21	" -64	" -18
" -46	" -58	-88	" -22	" -65	" -19
HN01-7	" -60	-93	" -23	" -66	" -20
" -12	" -63	-94	" -33	" -68	" -21
" -13	" -68	-95	" -34	HN06-3	" -25
" -15	" -70	HN02-8	" -35	" -4	" -29
" -16	" -71	-12	" -37	" -8	" -30
" -17	" -74	HN03-1	" -38	" -9	" -34
" -20	" -75	-3	" -40	" -10	" -

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## RECTANGLES



### Architectural Description

FRO3-34

I.S.  N.R.

Large Victorian house. Square shaped and two stories in height. It has a hipped roof and is placed in a longitudinal orientation. Decorative features include; two wall dormers, cut-out bays, corner turret with conical roof and cresting. The house also has a wrap-a-round porch that begins at the midpoint of the front facade and continues to the midpoint of the side. This house has a concrete block foundation, a band of fishscale shingling between the first and second story. Fishscales also occur in the attic wall dormers. The house is in good shape and it is still occupied.

### Outline of Significance

FRO3-34 FRANKLIN J. AUSTIN RESIDENCE 1905

- II Constructed by prominent family active in commerce and culture within the community.
- II Considered the most architecturally significant of Franklins "high style" residences.
- II Architectural significance based on extensive use of stylistic details.

## RECTANGLES



### Architectural Description

HN01-75

I.S. N.R.

A large rectangular, frame house. Gable roof with wood shingles. A frontal porch stretches the full length of this facade. Four ionic columns support the flat roof of this attached porch. Another feature is the wide eave line. The house is in good shape and it is occupied.

### Outline of Significance

HN01-75      HOUSE

- Unique architectural articulation compared to similar house forms.
- Significant representative of Alma's extant residential resources.
- Represents period of historic importance in domestic building.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:

## RECTANGLES



### Architectural Description

FR08-24

I.S.  N.R.

This house represents one of Uplands most successful attempts to stylize domestic frame building. Although the core of the house is a simple one-and-a-half rectangle, there is a conscious effort to use certain elements associated with Queen Anne architecture. The most conspicuous of these is the round turret that is engaged into the southeast corner of the house. Wrapping around the turret on the ground level is a circular porch decorated with five ionic columns. Capped by a conical roof, the turret is the strongest picturesque feature of the house. There is also an obvious attempt to use the various Queen Anne elements to form an asymmetrical composition. Examples of this are the oriel window placed below a gabled wall dormer on the south side and a slightly projected mass on the north wall.

### Outline of Significance

FR08-24 HOUSE

- Vernacularized application of a Queen Anne style.
- Contextual importance: represents a rare successful attempt at domestic style within the community.
- The structure retains most of the original integrity.

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES

## RECTANGLES



### Architectural Description

HN01-58

I.S.  N.R.

A large  $2\frac{1}{2}$  story Greek Revival house. Four giant ionic columns stretch the height of the house and form a grand image of the front facade. A second story balcony appears just above the house entry. The roof is a cross in plan and is comprised of gable roofs. The ionic columns support the front, gabled, third story dormer. The house is in excellent shape and it is occupied.

### Outline of Significance

HN01-58 HOUSE

- Comparatively. Most significant of Alma's High Style domestic architecture.
- Integrity. The house is unaltered and has been well preserved.
- Extensive use of exceptional architectural decoration.

**RECTANGLES****Architectural Description**

FR03-97

I.S.  N.R.

This is a small brick farmhouse. It is rectangular, one unit, one story, hip roof and longitudinal orientation. Features of this house include; a centralized chimney, frontal porch with four tuscan columns and arched brick lintels. This house is in fair shape and it is still occupied.

**Outline of Significance**

FR03-97      HOUSE

- Highly significant example within the study area of domestic vernacular building.
- Architectural significance based on comparatively rare material use.
- The preserved condition of form and material lend significance to the structure.

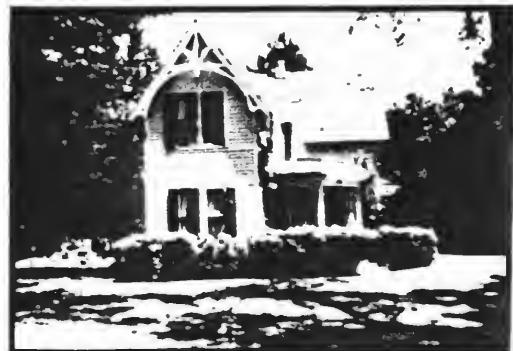
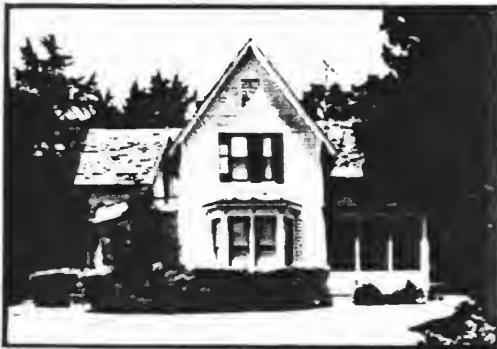
FRANKLIN COUNTY

FR00-9	FR00-41	FR02-37	FR03-77	FR04-17	FR08-4
" -31	FR01-7	" -43	" -84	" -28	" -5
" -34	" -12	" -47	" -88	FR06-6	" -13
" -37	" -16	FR03-19	FR04-14	" -13	" -15
" -39	" -28	" -72	" -15	FR07-13	" -29

HARLAN COUNTY

HN00-15	HN01-6	HN01-52	HN04-8	HN04-62	HN08-13
" -27	" -18	" -55	" -24	HN06-5	" -22
" -47	" -28	" -58	" -28	" -7	" -26
HN01-5	" -38	" -96	" -36	HN07-4	

## T-SHAPED



### Architectural Description

HN01-52

I.S.  N.R.

A 1½ story frame house, "T" shape with gable roof and central entry. The house has wood shingles on the roof and there are two side porches on the opposite sides of the stem of the "T". Decorative gable work such as king's post and half timber are also prevalent. This house also has a gable dormer and large bay window. The house is in good shape and is still occupied.

### Outline of Significance

HN01-52 HOUSE

- Unique architectural articulation of "T" shaped house.
- Context. Unique orientation of structure on property and landscaping scheme.
- Significant representative of Alma's vernacular domestic building.



FRANKLIN COUNTY

FR01-14

FR02-3

FR03-12

" -35

FR04-30

FR08-39

HARLAN COUNTY

HN01-40

" -89

HN02-5

HN04-6

" -26

" -61

# INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT STRUCTURES:



## L-SHAPED



### Architectural Description

FR08-39

I.S.  N.R.

This is a unique example of a concrete block house. It is "L" shaped, 1½ units, 1½ stories with a gabled roof and orientation of the house is longitudinal. The front porch consists of three concrete columns. Stone lintels occur over the windows and an octagonal second story tower is placed on one of the front facade corners. Windows are placed on each of the eight sides and each of the two stories of this tower. The tower roof is also hipped. This site is in fair to poor condition and is occupied.

### Outline of Significance

FR08-39      HOUSE

- II Important resource in relation to the limited architectural context
- II Sophisticated use of a comparatively uncommon and non-flexible material.
- II Unique example of High Style as applied to masonry construction
- III Although showing signs of deterioration, the house remains unaltered including an original concrete porch.

**LISTING: CROSS SHAPED**



**FRANKLIN COUNTY**

None

**HARLAN COUNTY**

HN07-5

**LISTING: IRREGULAR**



**FRANKLIN COUNTY**

FR03-41

FR06-30

**HARLAN COUNTY**

HN01-51

" -83

" -87

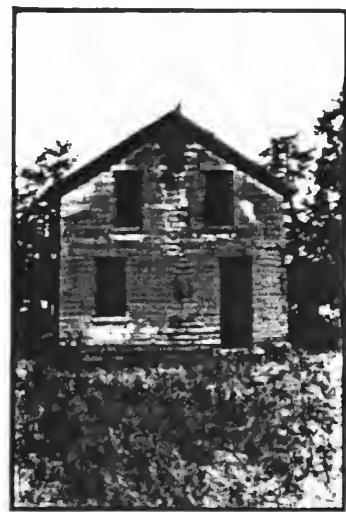
HN02-11

HN04-5

" -70

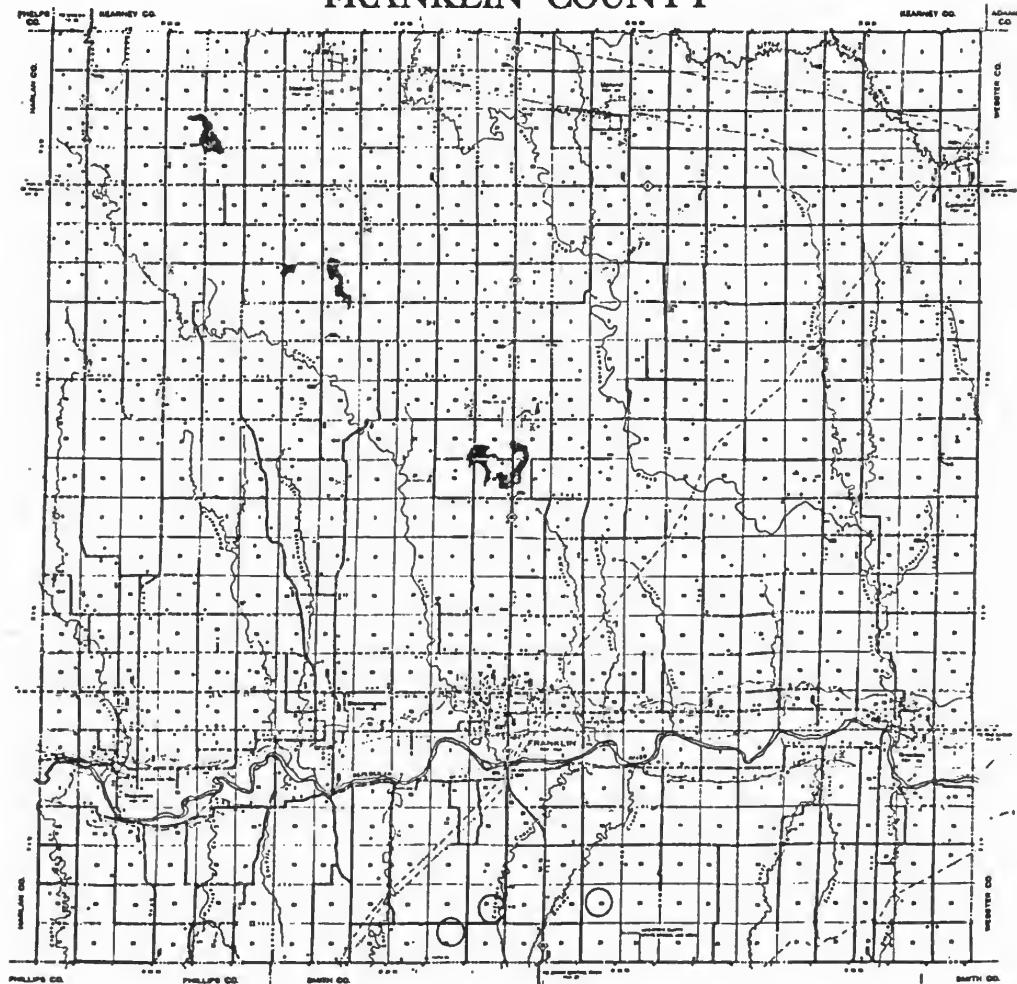
**Referencing :**      **Themes:**





**Location**

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**





## IDENTIFICATION OF THEME RESOURCES:

1. FROO-3
2. FROO-68
3. FROO-71

## LOCATION OF RESOURCES:

1. FROO-3: NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 29, Township 1 North, Range 14 West.
2. FROO-68: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 25, Township 1 North, Range 15 West
3. FROO-71: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 35, Township 1 North, Range 15 West

## CONDITION OF PROPERTIES:

- A. Good
- B. Deteriorated
- C. Unaltered
- D. Altered

1. FROO-3: B,C
2. FROO-68: B,C
3. FROO-71: Collapsed

## PERIOD OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE:

For all sites, 1890's - 1920

## ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The function of the sites:

Agricultural residences, the primary structure of the collective farmstead.

The forms/shapes of the sites:

1. FROO-3; Square
2. FROO-68; Rectangular
3. FROO-71; Square

Materials used:

1. FROO-68: Walls and foundation are made of quarzite rock, with the wall blocks cut in a more rectangular shape with less height than the taller more block like foundation rocks. The sills are made of rock as well and extend beyond the width of the window. The door and window lintels are a much larger stone which have decorative hammer-work. The interior used lath and plaster over frame walls with all joists and roofing of frame also.
2. FROO-3: Differs slightly in that the size and the shape of the cut blocks are larger and less refined. They are much taller

## FR00-3: (cont.)

and resemble the foundation blocks of FR00-68. There were no sills or lintels and the exterior of the house appears to have been covered with a plaster finish. The interior and roofing was constructed of basic framing methods.

FR00-71: Walls and foundation are made of quartzite rock which is also of a more crude, block-like shape and texture than FR00-68. There is not enough remaining of the dwelling to determine sill and lintel material or if they existed, however, of the 2½ remaining portions of walls, it is obvious that, like FR00-3, the walls had an exterior plaster finish and interior frame wall with a lath and plaster finish.

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: (each site)

1. FR00-68: Is a rectangular shaped house approximately 15' x 24' with an offset entry in the gable end. It is 1½ stories high with a gable roof and east-west orientation. Despite a solid muscular image the house displays some refined stylistic details. The rock has been cut in such a manner that it's texture is very smooth and the tightness of the rock courses suggests the level of craftsmanship is high. The lintels above the windows and doors have been textured with a decorative hammer-work and the 3 doorways were fitted with a transom frame. The upper windows on the north and south walls are ½ size square shaped while the second floor windows on the gable end remain full-sized. The wall thickness is estimated at 18" with the fenestration openings splayed from the outside inwards.

## 2. FR00-3 &amp; FR00-71:

Sites FR00-3 and FR00-71 exhibit a much more crude, raw image than FR00-68. They are square in plan with pyramidal roofs pierced by central chimney's. The wall construction of the square rock houses is more block-like with no lintel or sill work. There is no evidence of a raised foundation and the short 1-story height makes the houses appear as if they are symbiotically rooted in the land. There are obvious limitations in the attempt to architecturally describe a collapsed structure. However, based on an on-site inspection, there appears to be a great deal of similarity between FR00-71 & FR00-3. Besides the close proximity of the structures, both were square in plan and of a relatively equal size. The exterior walls contained a similar finish and they both portray a low horizontal solidity. Speculation concurs that FR00-71 contained a central chimney which may suggest a similar pyramidal roof shape.

## CONTEXT:

How is each site oriented on it's property?

FR00-3 & FR00-71 are set back a short distance from the county road on sloped grazing land which falls away as you proceed beyond the house.

FR00-68 is a greater distance from the road but is visible in 2 directions. It is located in the southeast quarter of the section which allows it to be seen from the east and south roads. It's orientation is latitudinal with the gable running east-west. This appears to be the important facade of the structure, but the entry to the house is located in the east gable end.

Freestanding or enclosed:

All sites are free of any adjacent structures despite their original use as farmsteads.

Unique or typical compared to surroundings:

Based on the use of Quartzite rock, these sites are considered to be of unique origin and not typical of rural Franklin Co. farmsteads.

Contribution to it's surroundings:

It is the attitude of Save America's Heritage that the quartzite structures are elements within the landscape which compliment the visual aesthetics of the local environment. It is our belief that these tangible elements of history portray the relationship of man and nature, and represent a frozen moment in the history and settlement of Nebraska. The resources also represent the conflicting struggle of the pioneers in their attempt to co-exist with nature.

Visibility:

The open visibility of the square houses presumably makes them somewhat of a visual landmark to the local residents, if for nothing more than as a mile marker in the niche of their environment.

Environmental "fit":

Despite the fact that these structures are obvious man made intrusions into the natural landscape, there exists a sense of naturalness in their image. They are built of a native material resembling the texture and color of a Nebraska soil and the subtle meeting of wall and ground makes the houses appear as if the walls were molded up out of the land. Contributing to this is the short wall height which echos the long, horizontal profile of Nebraska.



#### **Social Background**

With the opening of the Oregon Trail in 1841 and later the Mormon and forty-niner trails, thousands of settlers moved from the Missouri River and across Nebraska by animal drawn vehicles. Transportation and fuel have since become a significant factor in the transformation of Nebraska. Gas stations were soon established to meet a growing fuel and transportation need. With the establishment of gas stations, fuel became readily available for town and rural consumption. As gasoline motors became common, threshing machine companies began to make gasoline powered combines and the invention of the Model T by Henry Ford made the automobile available and affordable to the common man. Undoubtedly, the development of the internal combustion engine for farm and rural use was a progressive achievement for the twentieth century. The subsequent availability of fuel in these areas encouraged access to markets, altered production costs, lessened the labor demand and led to newer, faster and more efficient merchandising and farming methods.



### Summary of Findings

The Harlan and Franklin counties reconnaissance survey produced a total of 14 documented sites having a direct functional relationship with the birth and expansion of the automobile industry. These structures represent a social acceptance of a new technology during the time of great industrial growth in America. Through the study of these structures we begin to understand the importance of their function in society. Their visual character represents the conceived image of what 1920's society thought a gas station should look like. Therefore, they are physical representations of a specific period in social and architectural history.

There were basically three types of commercial automobile structures found during the survey. Those are: 1.) the gas station—the early representative of the theme, 2.) the garage—a later specialized function, 3.) the final concept of the multi purpose "service station". These three types show what is believed to be the progression of a building type from its foreign introduction into society to its unquestioned acceptance. The most predominant type found was the gas station, whose sole purpose was the commercial distribution of gasoline. Seven of these structures were found within the study area and the majority display similar characteristics. Each of the sites were built on corner lots and with just one exception, each of these have a skewed orientation allowing access from both north/south and east/west roads. The typical shape consists of a modest rectangular form covered with a low pitched hip roof. The rectangle in plan has been pierced by an integral portecochere creating a drive-through with the rear half becoming the attendants office. These sites were further linked by the consistent use of brick masonry construction.

Two examples were found which document another commercial service necessary to the auto industry.....the mechanics garage. These structures consisted of simple 1 bay stalls with adjoining office space to one or both sides. These



sites were located on middle lots and within one block distance from the corner gas station. At some point following the era of separate garage and gas facilities, the notion of consolidating these services into a single structure was born. What followed was a building located on a similar corner lot only now it is a much larger building combining the features of the corner entry gas station with side garage stalls for repair and maintenance. Despite the variances in the three sub-types, the common use of brick masonry construction was dominant with 12 of the 14 sites. The following is a listing of all sites contributing to this theme and examples of the three sub-types found.

## Appendix



### THEME: GAS STATIONS

#### IDENTIFICATION OF THEME RESOURCES:

1. FR06-20 8507/4:37
2. FR06-22 8507/5:4a
3. FR06-27 8507/5:11a
4. FR01-5 8507/6:12a
5. FR04-24 8507/10:15a
6. FR02-7 8507/22:15
7. FR08-33 8507/14:20a, 21a
8. FR08-34 8507/14:22a, 23a
9. FR03-92 8507/19:31
10. HN01-35 8506/16:12a
11. HN04-18 8506/10:16
12. HN08-4 8506/16:25a
13. HN08-6 8506/16:31a
14. HN04-19 8506/10:18, 19

#### LOCATION OF RESOURCES:

- A. Street Address, if exists
- B. Town, if exists
- C. County
- D. Legal Description

#### A.-C.

1. NEC Fennimore and Washington, Naponee, Franklin
2. SEC Fennimore and Washington, Naponee, Franklin
3. NWC Fennimore and Broadway, Naponee, Franklin
4. SWC 6th Avenue and Nebraska, Bloomington, Franklin
5. SEC Hubbard Street and Commercial Avenue, Hildreth, Franklin
6. NWC N. Broad and N. Railway, Campbell, Franklin
7. NWC Plainfield Street and S. Prairie Avenue, Upland, Franklin
8. ES S. Prairie Avenue between Midland and Plainfield Streets, Upland, Franklin
9. NWC 15th and "J" Street, Franklin, Franklin
10. SEC Devision Avenue and 7th Street, Alma, Harlan
11. SEC Republican Avenue and Maple Street, Orleans, Harlan
12. SEC Webster Street and Beaver Avenue, Stamford, Harlan
13. ES Beaver Avenue between Kent and S. end blocked boundary area
14. NEC Republican and Maple, Orleans, Harlan

#### D.

1. Lot 9,10 Block 8, Original Town Corner
2. Lot 9,10 Block 8, Original Town
3. Lot 15,16 Block 6, Original Town Corner
4. Lot 1, Block 51, Original Town Corner
5. Lot 18, Block 7, Original Town Corner
6. Lot 11, Block 6, Original Town Corner
7. Lot 11,12 Block 11, Original Town Corner
8. Lot 14, Block 10, Original Town
9. Lot 18, Block 11, Original Town Corner
10. Lot 6,7,8 Block 4, Willits Addition Corner
11. Lot 414,415 Block Original Town Corner
12. Lot 21, Block 12, Original Town Corner
13. Lot 12, Block 19, Original Town
14. Lot 320,321 Block Original Town Corner

## CONDITION OF PROPERTIES:

- A. Good
- B. Deteriorated
- C. Unaltered
- D. Altered

1. B,C	5. A,C	9. A,D	13. A,C
2. A,C	6. B,C	10. A,C	14. A,C
3. A,C	7. B,C	11. A,B,C	
4. B,D	8. D	12. B,D	

HISTORIC NAMES: NONE

## PERIOD OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE:

Gas Stations 1917-1930s  
 Garages 1920-1930s

## ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The function of the sites:

Gas Stations provided oil, gas, water and other simple automobile needs for the customer.

Garages provided mechanical work for farm machinery and automobiles could be repaired at the garage.

The forms/shapes of the sites:

All garages and Gas Stations were rectangular except for one gas station in Campbell. This gas station is shaped to take advantage of its corner lot.

Materials used:

Brick was predominant in all structures with the exception of site #9

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: EACH SITE

1. Rectangular, brick, gable roof and integral porte cochere supported by 2 square brick columns, 2 front doors.
2. Rectangular, brick, flat roof
3. Rectangular, brick, flat roof, corner drive, 3 side garage doors.
4. Rectangular, brick, flat roof, porte cochere, (shingled frame with gable roof).
5. Rectangular, brick, hip roof, integral porte cochere.
6. Plan- brick, 1 story with corbling, 1 garage door and office.
7. 1 story, brick, hip roof.
8. 1 story frame, gable roof with false front.

9. 1 story, brick, false front, odd shape, garage.
10. Stucco, 1 story, gable roof with side chimney.
11. 1 story, brick, rectangular with integral porte cochere, flat roof.
12. 1 story, brick, gable roof. later addition; rectangular, brick, flat roof, attached to back corner of original building.
13. 1 story, brick, rectangular with hipped porte cochere (attached) arched entry, side garage door, corbling.
14. Brick, corner entry, garage/gas station, stepped parapet.

**CONTEXT:**

Orientation of site on property:

The gas stations were all located on corner lots. For some of the smaller corner stations a diagonal orientation occurs. The garages primarily consisted of rectangular buildings with false fronts and front garage door. Larger garages and a corner location with garage doors on both the front and side.

Free standing or enclosed:

1. Freestanding	6. Freestanding	11. Freestanding
2. Freestanding	7. Freestanding	12. Freestanding
3. Freestanding	8. Enclosed	13. Freestanding
4. Freestanding	9. Freestanding	14. Freestanding
5. Freestanding	10. Freestanding	

Unique or typical compared to surroundings:

1. Typical	6. Odd Shape	11. Typical
2. Typical	7. Typical	12. Typical
3. Typical	8. Typical	13. Typical
4. Typical	9. Typical	14. Unique
5. Typical	10. Unique	

Contribution (site) to its surrounding:

The older stations remind our society of the birth of the automobile.

Visible or key location in town?

Main street was a prime location for gas stations and garages. The gas stations took advantage of the corner lots. These prime locations made it easier for the driver to pull into the station, get gas and exit. The garages were primarily rectangular buildings with false fronts and a main garage entrance on the front facade. Later garages had corner locations with both a front service door and a side service door for autos and farm machinery.

Significant adjacent structures:

In Naponee, a freestanding gas station shared the same lots with the freestanding garage. This arrangement must have proved to fulfill the need to simplify and combine automotive needs. As we see in future gas stations, example; the Standard station in Campbell, the two functions of pumping gas and automotive service have been unified into one building. This arrangement soon became the norm in future structures.

Did the site alter the landscape?

In an indirect sense the gas station did alter the landscape. The stations were created to provide a service to the rapidly growing transportation age. Roads, bridges and autos began to criss-cross and dot the rolling acres of farmland. In fact, it was really the automobile that altered the landscape. The gas station grew out of the automotive needs of fuel and maintainance.

Was the site visually aesthetic?

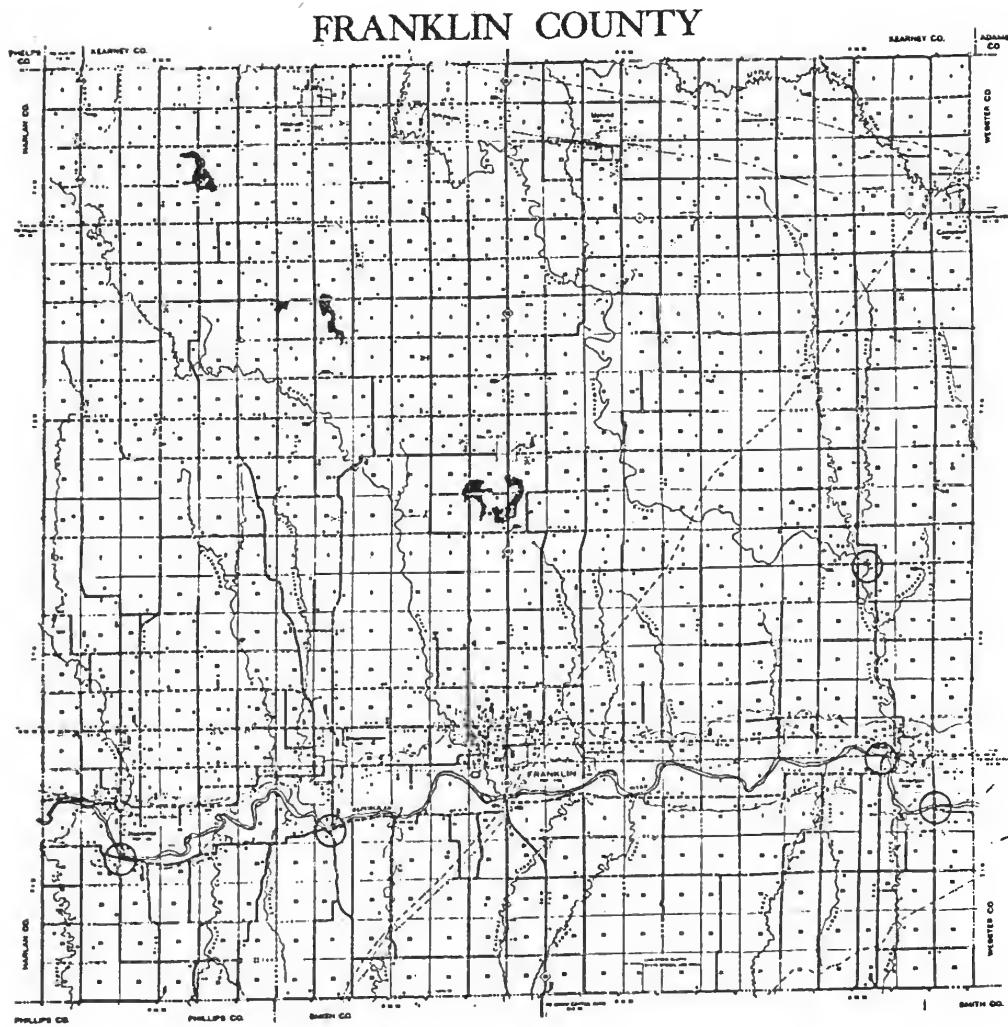
The gas station evolved into a standard form which was different from any other structure. It was easily recognisable by its porte cochere, corner position, size, shape, and the gas pumps.

THEME:

## BRIDGES OF THE REPUBLICAN RIVER VALLEY



### Location



## Appendix



THEME: BRIDGES

### IDENTIFICATION OF THEME RESOURCES:

1. FROO-1      2. FROO-2      3. FROO-55      4. FROO-64      5. FROO-70      6. HN00-1

### LOCATION OF RESOURCES:

1. FROO-1: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 16, Township 1 North, Range 16 West.
2. FROO-2: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 8, Township 1 North, Range 15 West.
3. FROO-55: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 3, Township 1 North, Range 13 West.
4. FROO-64: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 3, Township 2 North, Range 13 West.
5. FROO-70: NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 12, Township 1 North, Range 12 West.
6. HN00-1: SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 25, Township 2 North, Range 19 West.

### CONDITION OF PROPERTIES:

- A. Good
- B. Deteriorated
- C. Unaltered
- D. Altered

1. FROO-1: B,C    2. FROO-2: New Bridge    3. FROO-55: B,C    4. FROO-64: B,C  
5. FROO-70: A,C    6. HN00-1: B,C

### HISTORIC NAMES:

FROO-70: Prairie Bridge Company, Falls City, Nebraska (1911).  
FROO- : H.T. Ward and Company, Tecumseh, Nebraska (1901).

### PERIOD OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE:

For all sites, 1900-1915.

### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE:

#### The function of the sites:

The functions for all sites were and are for transportation across waterways, the movement of marketable goods, links to counties and communities, safety, lines of ready access and for settler expansion.

#### The forms/shapes of the sites:

Pratt through Truss Bridges, 1-3 span, rectangular.

#### Materials used:

Steel truss work with wooden planking or concrete surface, steel guard rails, suspension cables.

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION: EACH SITE

1. FROO-1 Rectangular, 3 span, diagonal supports, horizontal beams, guard rails, 2 sets steel pilings, south and middle bays are 5 bays in themselves, all steel, wood planking for surface.

2. FROO-2 Non-extant, replaced by existing concrete bridge.
3. FROO-55 Rectangular, 2 span bridge, north bay is 6 bay in itself, guard rails, diagonal supports, horizontal beams, all steel, wood planking for surface.
4. FROO-64 Rectangular, single bay, diagonal supports, horizontal beams, guard rails, all steel, wood planking for surface.
5. FROO-70 Rectangular, 3 span bridge, 4 bays within each bay itself, diagonal supports, horizontal beams, guard rails, all steel, wood planking for surface.
6. HNOO-1 Pratt Truss Bridge, single span, concrete surface, guard rails, rectangular.

**CONTEXT:**

**Orientation of site on property:**

1. FROO-1 north-south bridge
2. FROO-2 north-south bridge
3. FROO-55 north-south bridge
4. FROO-64 east-west bridge
5. FROO-70 north-south bridge
6. HNOO-1

**Freestanding or enclosed:**

All bridge sites are freestanding

**Unique or typical compared to surroundings:**

The bridge sites are unique for the county but typical for existing bridges in the Republican River Valley.

**Contribution (site) to its surrounding:**

The contribution of bridges to their surroundings is allowing rural access to the towns and other communities and vise versa.

**Did the site alter the landscape?**

Visually the bridges did alter the landscape but physically they did not. They simply connected two land areas by spanning a waterway.

**Was the site visually aesthetic?**

Bridges were considered visually aesthetic because the steel weathers and they have a simple shape and form.

**The role it (site) provided to society:**

The bridges enabled settlers in scattered areas to travel to towns and homesteads of neighbors which was important because community and group efforts were often needed to accomplish goals during early development of the territory. They also aided in the transportation of goods-grain, foods, materials and supplies from town for the establishment of trade and commerce. Bridges were a significant part of the interactions between communities and/or ethnic groups at the time.



With our nations current situation of farming, a key issue must be realized. Corporate farms are rapidly driving the small town farmer out of business. As these farmers begin to lose their farmsteads, we begin to lose a part of our heritage too. Reconnaissance surveying is only the first step in documenting our heritage and we must think about what priorities follow. These future priorities could help lead to a more detailed knowledge of the survey area both culturally and architecturally.

Specifically, future priorities for Harlan and Franklin counties include:

1. Initiating intense surveying on sites identified as significant.
2. Pursuing a thematic nomination from identified themes.
3. Pursuing a possible multiple resource nomination in Orleans

The step following the initial reconnaissance survey is to go back to the sites that were classified as significant and do intensive surveying. This would include studying the structure more closely and making detailed drawings and plans. This extended survey work could lead to pursuing a thematic nomination from identified themes such as agriculture or commercial. The importance of thematic nominations proves important because these themes stress a past way of living.

A majority of the abandon farmsteads are being razed to clear more ground for farming. Characteristic farmhouses are being replaced by inexpensive and easily maintained trailer houses. Small rural towns that grew from the agricultural industry are also becoming extinct. Bloomington's main street is in the process of being torn down and where once city blocks were scattered with houses there are now fields. In order to preserve Nebraska's agricultural past, we must concentrate on surveying the rural and small town agricultural areas before they disappear.

To help one better understand the survey area, a series of questions must be answered. These prevalent questions can aid the future survey teams if an intensive survey of this area is promoted. The questions are as follows:

1. What is the origin of the town?
2. Why are some of these historic towns no longer around?
3. The cost of an average home?
4. Do some towns have social class district according to financial status?
5. When did indoor plumbing in the towns arrive?
6. How does the town now appear compared to its original appearance?
7. Have the cultural groups changed over the towns existence?
8. What is the relationship between the small town and the larger cities?
9. What architectural influences were brought from the east?
10. How did the towns growth affect nearby farmsteads?
11. When did the technology of paved streets appear?
12. What building was the center of activity in these towns?
13. Statistically, how do Harlan and Franklin counties compare to other counties in the number of farmhouses, commercial buildings, depots ...
14. How do you survey a part of a town that no longer exists?
15. When were railroads discontinued as the main form of transportation?
16. What percentage of farmsteads were bought outright and what percentage were inherited?



The reconnaissance level survey of Harlan and Franklin counties, conducted by the guidelines set forth in the contractual agreement, was completed with very few problems or detractions. The setting and subsequent following of certain guidelines was helpful in both charting a prescribed course of study to follow and in coordinating and recording the findings from the survey. However, as with all surveys, there are certain limitations and bias' that should be brought forward for discussion and to aid in certain considerations for future reconnaissance level surveys.

LIMITATIONS:

One of the more frequent limitations and concerns was the surveyor access to certain properties (potential sites). Often, the surveyor was prevented or limited from documenting sites due to the inaccessibility of the site. There were sites found in the course of the survey which were unable to be photographed due to obstructions such as trees, landscaping and outbuildings blocking the view as seen from the road. There were also a few historically early sites set back in sections of pasture or cropland where roads were unavailable and where again, obstructions prevented documentation of the site. Asking owner permission would be the only alternative for documenting these sites.

The market availability of the perspective correcting lens (PC lens) has apparently become scarce. The UNL Architectural College currently has one available for rental but the condition is deteriorating. Lincoln stores rarely carry one for immediate purchase but they may be ordered through retail catalogues with several weeks waiting period.

Suspicion and uneasiness was very uncommon during the survey due largely to the press releases sent out before the surveying. Personal name tags were found to be quite helpful in dealing with site owners personally. Many approached the team if they saw pictures being taken. A pair of magnetic stickers for the side doors of the survey vehicle would be helpful in future

surveys to help the site owners make immediate identification.

The documentation of Republican City deserves mentioning because of an altered historical landscape. Research shows that the Harlan County Dam, built in 1951, was built at the expense of the "old" town of Republican City. The dam now covers the entire "old" town with the new town being moved to its present location. Although the government did re-locate some of the town's original buildings in the present town of Republican City, most of the historic Republican City is under water.

Certain limitations did arise out of the appearance of some structures, such as their lack of integrity and the advance of new technologies. Many obvious historical structures lacked integrity due to altered materials and altered forms. It often became a question of how much alteration could be permitted and still retain the historical importance architecturally. New technologies are also trying to make the historic building obsolete. Many owners are turning to aluminum siding for economic reasons and communities appear to see advantages in building a new structure instead of rehabilitating the old or historic one. Hence, some historic structures sit idly by as the new technologies advance.

#### BIAS

One of our main bias' were the exceptions to the lack of integrity of certain possible historic sites. We followed a guideline of form, function, and materials. Whether we documented a site that was lacking integrity was determined by whether the site contained a "rare" form, function, or materials. The survey team chose to follow this rule because of the houses which lacked integrity but still held historical and architectural significance.

Due to the large number of possible site available by obtaining permission from the landowner, we felt it may prove profitable in future surveys to seek approval for asking landowners for permission to enter the property or take

a more advantageous position in relation to the site for the picture. Often the farmhouse is nearby or the actual site is occupied, in which case the owner usually comes out if they see pictures being taken from the road. The main concern here is that roadside pictures are not always possible due to foliage, windbreaks and landscaping.

With the fast changing farm economy and the emergence of new technologies 35% coverage for rural site documentation may be low. The rural areas are quickly deteriorating and with the few number of people moving into the rural areas during a period of economic stress in agriculture, there is little being done to restore or give adequate up-keep to the many sites. Many historical and architecturally significant sites could be lost without added emphasis.

Unlike past surveys, Save America's Heritage chose to record both the High Style and Vernacular styles. The recording of only High Styles, as in past surveys, you ignore certain aspects of Great Plains settlement and architecture such as farmsteads and outbuildings as well as the ethnic associated buildings which appear in many of Nebraska's communities.

Throughout the survey there was documentation of various building typologies. To aid in the documentation, Save America's Heritage recorded general descriptions for each site and employed the Supratype strategy as developed by the Midwest Committee on Vernacular Architecture, to achieve a more thorough description of the documented site..

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